No.	Division.	Quantity of wire.	Amount.
			Rs.
1	East Khándesh	60 cwts. and 6,000 staples.	1,210
2	West Khándesh	.....	...
3	Násik	79 cwts. and 10,000 staples.	1,533
4	Ahmednagar	55 cwts.	950
5	Poona	.....	...
6	Sátára	.. ...	...
7	Sholápur	187 cwts.	3,028
	Total ...	381 cwts. 16,000 staples.	6,721

The fences previously made were also kept in good order and have proved, it is needless to say, very advantageous.

(c). Improvement of Forest Growth.

(1). Natural Reproduction.

92. The year under report was favourable to natural reproduction, owing to a plentiful and seasonable rainfall generally throughout the Central Circle. In the East Khándesh Division it was very refreshing to observe the myriads of young plants of teak and of other kinds of timber trees resulting from self-sown seeds which appeared in suitable soil, on the bank of the Aner river, and in fire-protected areas, in the Sátpuda and other forests. The Anjan (Hardwickia binata), which does not seed annually or regularly, seeded during the year, and has given an abundant supply of young life in the Transpurna, the Ráver, Sávda, Yával and other reserved forests where this valuable tree predominates. The stools of teak trees which were felled in the forests of the Jámner Range and in the Sátpudás have thrown up vigorous shoots with scarcely any failures.

93. In the West Khándesh Division natural reproduction, which is generally much retarded by the fierce and extensive forest fires, which occur annually, has made a better show than usual, owing to the great reduction in the area of forest fires and also owing to more favourable atmospheric conditions.

94. Where fire-protection and closure against cattle have been effective, natural reproduction in the Násik forests is more conspicuous than elsewhere; however, its advance, except in parts greatly exposed to cattle, is generally satisfactory.

95. Mr. Wilkins, Divisional Forest Officer, Poona, reports that natural reproduction is making sure and steady progress all over his forests. Under the shelter of bushes, young plants of all kinds are to be seen, which have come from seeds deposited by birds and four-footed animals. The young fresh growth of nimb (Melia azadirachta) and of sandalwood (Santalum album) also, in places where the seedlings receive protection against cattle, and where they obtain moisture and nourishment and shade, is most marked in the drier and stonier high lands in the eastern ranges of the division; while in the western ranges, and more particularly along the Ghâts, the new growth in the moist forests is very promising.

96. In the Sátára Division there is nothing special to record: the forests which do not suffer from cattle are making steady improvement in every way. In order to supplement the work of Nature in scattering seeds, the forest guards of the permanent establishment collected 164 khandis, 26 maunds, 23 pounds of seeds of trees specially valued for timber and fuel, and broad-casted them, during the rains, over 23,022 acres of closed forests.

97. In the Sholápur Division natural reproduction has advanced steadily, grass has increased in density, and self-sown seedlings of nimb and other trees which inhabit this comparatively rainless part of the Deccan, are coming up in fair profusion all over the forests, on uplands as well as on plains.

(2). Artificial Reproduction.

98. In the East Khándesh Division 35 khandis, 14 maunds and 11 seers of seeds collected mostly by forest guards, were sown over 4,550 acres of reserved forests; of which 1,133 acres were in prepared pits, in 573 acres the seeds were dibbled into the ground, 843 acres were ploughed up in the first place, and over the remaining 2,001 acres seeds were broad-casted. Mr. Madan reports that these operations have met with varying success according to soil and situation; in some places, bábul seedlings have appeared in dense masses; in other localities awla (Phylanthus emblica) and tarwad (Cassia auriculata) cover the ground, but the germination of teak (Tectona grandis) has been generally sparse, as it usually takes more time than one rainy season to make its appearance; some slips of Jatropha curcas planted by forest guards have established themselves.

99. In the West Khándesh Division in the two nurseries, one in Dhulia and the other at Dahiwel in the Pimpalner Range, a large number of young plants are raised yearly for transplanting into the neighbouring forests, but the results are inconsiderable. The exploited coupes of the season were sown up. Each forest guard is required to prepare and sow 1,000 pits, and to broad-cast one thousand acres of the forests, within his beat yearly; and where constant attention is given to the young plants, and they are well protected against cattle and fire, a fair measure of success has been obtained.

100. In the Násik Division 616 acres were sown chiefly with bábul seeds in the reserved forests on the plains in the Násik Range. Some portions were pitted over, and others were ploughed. The coupes of the year in the Násik, Igatpuri, Sinnar and Nandgaon ranges have been sown up; in some of them the ground was previously ploughed, and in some the seeds were dibbled, while elsewhere they were broad-casted. Some of the old plantations are flourishing, such for example as Belgaum Dhaga and Pathardi in the Násik Range, Sawandgaon, Dabli, Aghar and Wadner in the Málegaon Range, Pada in the Dindori and Pimpalgaon Mori in the Igatpuri Range: but artificial cultivation generally is not so successful as might be the case if cattle were kept out constantly from the areas which have been specially treated in successive years.

101. In the Ahmednagar Division 191 acres 15 gunthas representing the exploited coupes of the year in the bábul reserved forests were ploughed and sown, principally with imported Sind bábul seed; and as reported by the Range Forest Officers, the results of these sowings are generally satisfactory; many of these forests being situated on the banks of large rivers. Nimb seeds were dibbled into the ground inside bushes over 9,875 acres at intervals of 10 feet in most of the ranges, and the Range Forest Officers report the results to be good: 919 acres were dibbled over with teak seeds at distances of 10 feet apart, in the Shrigonda, Karjat, Shevgaon and Sangamner ranges, but the seeds have not germinated so freely as hoped for. In lands opened to sheep grazing in the Nagar, Párner, Shrigonda, Karjat, Ráhuri and Sangamner ranges, 2,835 acres were dibbled over with tarwad (Cassia auriculata), and seeds of other kinds, the young growth from which sheep religiously avoid, at distances of 10 feet apart; and the results of this operation are said to be fairly successful. In the Nagar, Shrigonda, Karjat, Jámkhed, Shevgaon, Nevása Ráhuri and Kopargaon ranges, 3,433 acres of rich black soil were broad-casted with bábul seed in the established manner, a large handful of seed being scattered at every 4 paces or 10 feet by a gang of labourers moving in a line 10 feet apart from each other; and the Range Forest Officers report that the seeds of the previous year have germinated very freely, while those of the year under report have only come up sparsely at present. 117,643 pits were dug by paid labour in the Nagar, Párner, Shrigonda, Karjat, Shevgaon, Nevása, Ráhuri, Kopargaon, Sangamner and Akola ranges, and nimb (Melia azadirachta), sadara (Terminalia tomentosa), teak (Tectona grandis), &c. were sown in them, and the condition of the seedlings